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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	09/681,172
Filing Date	February 8, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kenneth A. Franken
Group Art Unit	2173
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	00F1464

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

171

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
- ☐ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment / Reply
- ☐ After Final
- ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

- ☐ Assignment Papers (for an Application)
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____

- ☐ After Allowance Communication to Group
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☒ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Copies of European Standard Search Report, as well as copies of 2 U.S. patents and 2 foreign documents

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm
or
Individual name

Gregory G. Williams
Simmons, Perrine, Albright & Ellwood, P.L.C.

Signature

Date

April 5, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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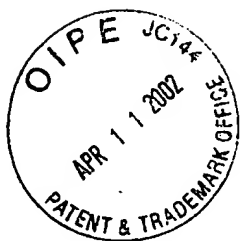
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Date

April 5, 2002

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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 00F1464

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kenneth A. Franken et al. Group Art Unit No. 2173

Serial No. 09/681,172

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: February 8, 2001

Atty. Docket No. 00F1464

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Since filing the initial Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants have become aware of the following references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B. The Applicants herein believe these documents may be material to the examination of this application and with respect to which there may be a duty of disclosure.

U.S. Patent Documents:

6,182,287	Schneidewend	January 30, 2001
6,002,394	Schein	December 14, 1999

Foreign Documents

EPO 834798	Stautner	October 7, 1997
WO 99 65237	Ismail	June 1, 1999

Other Prior Art

European Standard Search Report dated August 2, 2001

This Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been completed or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a) exists, nor shall the submission of any document or the disclosure of any other information in connection herewith be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or as an admission against interest in any manner.

The above-listed references are, in the belief and opinion of the undersigned, the closest art of which the Applicants are aware as of this date, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this document be considered and made of record in the above-identified application.

It is believed that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedures §609. If for some reason the Examiner considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be called so that any deficiencies can be remedied.

Some of the documents may have markings thereon. No significance is meant to the attached markings.

These documents are not necessarily analogous art.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate consideration of the cited references by returning a copy of the attached form PTO-1449 with initials or other appropriate marks.

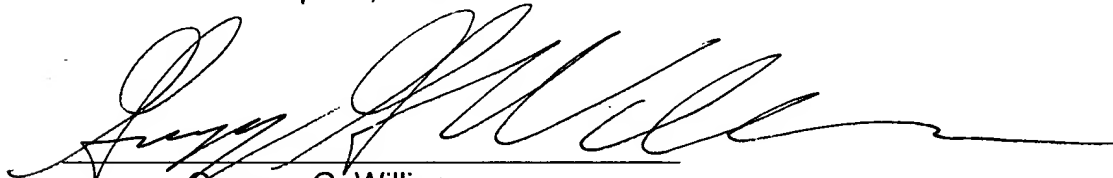
Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth A. Franken et al.

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Gregory G. Williams